(b) if so, the details thereof including domestic supply of coal to steel industry and the supply from overseas sources during each of the last three years;

(c) whether it is possible for the domestic coal industry to meet the entire need of steel industry;

(d) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in that regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a gap between demand of coal by steel industry and indigenous coal availability both qualitatively and quantitatively.

(b) Details are given in the statement (*See* below).

(c) At present with the available technology for steel making being used in the integrated steel plants and reserve of coking coal available in the country, it is not possible for domestic coal industry to meet the entire need of steel industry.

(d) and (e) Domestic coal industry is faced with constraint of techno-economically exploitable reserves of coking coal and hence cannot meet entire need to steel industry.

Coal Reforms

4502. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission have suggested some fresh reforms for the coal sector for implementation by his Ministry in a time-bound schedule, including removal of coal from the essential commodities list to allow free trading in coal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its present status?

Statement

Companywise Supply of Indigenous and Imported Coal to Steel Sector During Last Four Years

(In Million Tonnes)

	2004-05 (provisional)				2003-04				2002-03				2001-02			
Company	Steel (Direct Feed)	Steel (Washery feed-Ckg)	Coke-ries	Total	Steel (Direct Feed)	Steel (Washery feed-Ckg)	Coke-nes	Total	Steel (Direct Feed)	Steel (Wash ary feed-Ckg)	Coke-ries	Total	Steel (Direct Feed)	Steel (Wash ary feed-Ckg)	Coke-ries	Total
ECL	0.055		0.230	0.285	0.061		0.127	0.188	0.061		0.168	0 229	0.062		0.223	0.285
BCCL Break	5.296		0.174	3.548	0 316		4.038	0.148	4.831		0 367	5.346	0.146	5.057	0 414	5.617
CCL		5.306		5.306		5.0.19		5.019		4.603	0 237	4 840		4.287	0 148	4.435
WCL		0.744		0.744		0.634		0.634		0.566	0 044	0.610		0.510	0 050	0.560
SECL	0.147			0.147	0.148			0.148	0.148			0 148	0.146			0.146
CIL	0.202	6.050	0.230	11.778	0.383	9.201	0.443	10.027	0.357	10.000	0 816	11 173	0.354	9.854	0.835	11.043
IISCO	0.010	0.522		0.532	0.013	0.502		0.515	0.020	0.550		0.570	0.319	0.535		0.854
TISCO		6.368		6.368		6.136	0.001	6.137		5.918		5.918		5.638		5.638
TOTAL	0.212	12.940	0.230	18.678	0.396	15.839	0.444	16 679	0.377	16.468	0 816	17.661	0 673	16.027	0.835	17.535
IMPORT				10.794*				12.992				12 942				11.107

*Data upto Dec. 2004. Beyond that data is not available from DGCI&S.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has suggested some critical initiatives for the development of coal sector which, *inter-alia*, include the following:

(i) Expedite passing of Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 which would permit private sector in non-captive mining in order to augment domestic coal production for meeting the rising coal demand.

(ii) Amend the provision of Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation (MMDR) Act, 1957 to facilitate offering of coal blocks to potential entrepreneurs on competitive bidding basis.

(iii) Enlarge the scope of captive mining by permitting captive block holders to sell incidental coal production during development of the block at least to Coal India Ltd. (CIL).

(iv) Restructure Coal India Ltd. (CIL) by doing away with the holding company structure and extending autonomy to individual coal producing companies for promoting competition amongst the national coal companies.

(v) Permit trading of coal by removing it from the list of essential commodities.

(vi) Change grading and pricing of non-coking coal from the existing Useful Heat Value (UHV) to Gross Calorific Value (GCV) to encourage efficient use and allocation and promote use of washed coal.

(vii) Amend the provisions of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 to facilitate offloading of certain activities in coal mining for improved economics of operations.

(viii) As a step towards abolishing coal linkages these linkages may be made tradable by power plants.

The decisions/actions taken by the Government in respect of the above suggestions of the Planning Commission are as under:

(i) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha in April, 2000 to permit private participation in non-captive coal mining in order to augment coal production in the country.

(ii) A proposal to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 to allow allocation of coal blocks on competitive bidding basis is under consideration of the Government.

(iii) Government has decided to enlarge the scope of captive mining by permitting captive holders to sell incidental coal production during the development of a mine to CIL.

(iv) In a bid to give increased autonomy to the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, the Government has decided to delegate powers exercised by CIL relating to procurement of all items except explosives to the coal producing subsidiaries. Further it has been decided to completely delegate power relating to marketing in the non core sector to MCL, WCL and SECL. The issue of restructuring of CIL is being looked into by an Expert Committee constituted by the Government.

(v) Ministry of Coal has communicated to the Department of Consumer Affairs its concurrence to the deletion of coal from the Essential Commodities List.

(vi) A pilot study to generate sufficient data for gradation of coal on the basis of Gross Calorific Value (GVC) has been entrusted to the Central Fuel Research Institute.

(vii) As and when the coal companies seek exemption under the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Development) Act for certain activities of coal mining it is considered by the Government on a case to case basis.

(viii) Presently no proposal for making coal linkages tradable by power plants is under consideration.